

Then in 1993 once again President Clinton decided with the Democrat leadership that once again we ought to do something to try to fix the deficit problem. In both cases taxes were raised; and in both cases, one succeeding the other, it was the biggest tax increase in the history of our country, in 1990 trumped by 1993.

When we come and look at the books today we see that we have still got the same deficit problem because we have not done anything about spending, and by increasing taxes we have simply put a damper on the national economy.

This year, the President's report on the economy suggests that in the years ahead we can anticipate a 2.3- to 2.5-percent growth in our national economy. And, once again, many of us think on this side of the aisle and I am sure there are some on yours who believe that this is because of the bad tax policy that was put in place in 1990 and 1993.

What the Republican tax proposal for this year is, it is a growth package. It deals with capital gains to get growth. It deals with reforming the alternative minimum wage to get growth. It deals with promoting savings and investment by giving different treatment to the IRA's and putting in place what we call our super-IRA plan.

It has to do with the senior citizens earning test, and it has to do with a family tax credit for middle America so that the families of America can share in this growth opportunity along with our Government and with our Federal revenues.

So when the gentleman, the previous speaker from Illinois, Mr. DURBIN, criticized us for the 1980's, we are willing to take our share of the criticism. We are willing to look at what we did wrong in the 1980's, which was our failure to curtail spending, but we are not willing to concede, not for a minute, that good growth tax policy is what the American economy needs, and as a result, we will have the revenue to balance the budget by the year 2002.

#### TAX BENEFIT FOR RUPERT MURDOCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, the New York Daily News made some disturbing revelations about the kinds of secret, backroom deals being cut by House Republicans.

Last week, the House passed legislation that would allow tax deductions for the self-employed and repeal tax benefits for minority broadcasters.

But hidden in the conference report was one special provision that would allow Rupert Murdoch to reap tens of millions of dollars in tax benefits.

According to Sunday's New York Daily News, and I quote:

Republicans dropped their opposition to the tax break after learning Murdoch was the beneficiary of the legislation and consulting Gingrich, according to six sources involved in the negotiations.

In fact, according to an earlier New York Daily News story on Saturday, a Senate staffer is reported as saying, "the Republicans were going to kill the deal until they found out that Murdoch owned the station. Then they almost magically approved it."

Keep in mind: The Republicans claimed they opposed this kind of tax break. And in 18 other pending cases, they refused to allow these deals to go forward.

Only the case involving Rupert Murdoch's TV station in Atlanta was allowed to go through with a special tax break.

I am here today to call on Speaker NEWT GINGRICH to explain exactly why his own publisher got special treatment, and exactly why this multi-million-dollar tax break for Rupert Murdoch was allowed to secretly slip through.

For the Speaker to claim that he had to agree to a special provision that was put in by a Senator is ludicrous.

Just last week, when Democrats tried to keep a Senate provision that would stop billionaires who renounce their citizenship from avoiding their taxes, the Speaker said no.

And following lockstep with his lead, every Republican but five voted against closing this loophole for billionaires.

Now we find that hidden in this same bill was a special provision that would allow one billionaire, who just happens to be the Speaker's publisher, to reap a multi-million-dollar windfall.

Does anybody really believe that the Speaker could not do anything to stop this?

It seems to me that the lesson here is no matter which way you cut it, if you are a multimillionaire or if you are a billionaire, Republican tax bills are going to look out for you.

What we have here is a window on the whole Contract With America and the way the Gingrich Republicans operate.

This week we are going to be dealing with what the Speaker himself calls the crown jewel of the contract—a tax bill that will give more than half its benefits to people making more than \$100,000 a year.

The Gingrich Republican tax bill may be a crown jewel for the wealthy—but for the rest of America, it's fool's gold.

Last week's special windfall for Rupert Murdoch must not stand.

There is still time for the Senate to stop this multi-million-dollar boondoggle.

I am calling on the Senate to strip this provision out and send us a clean bill.

BOB DOLE should send this bill back without the special break for Rupert Murdoch.

Even more important, the Speaker himself needs to come clean, on his ties with Murdoch, on his role in this special tax break, and on the tangle of special interests that are tainting all his dealings.

This is precisely the kind of thing we warned about when NEWT GINGRICH entered his \$4.5 million book deal with Rupert Murdoch.

And this is why now, more than ever, we need a professional, nonpartisan, outside counsel to come in and sort out this whole mess.

It is looking more and more every day like the so-called Contract With America is really a contract with corporate special interests, or perhaps a contract with NEWT GINGRICH's special friends.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning business, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

#### □ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska] at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

The beauty and refreshment of this spring day reminds us of the need for renewal and restoration in our lives. This day is Your gift, O gracious God, a gift that reminds us of Your bountiful good will to us and to all people. We are sensitive to the fresh air of spring, we are alert to the green buds that now surround us, wherever we look our senses are filled with the resurgence of life and new possibilities of our growth in faith and hope and love. Fill us, we pray, with the joy and the blessing and the light of this day, that we will walk with Your favor and be the people You would have us be. In Your name, we pray, Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair requests the gentleman from